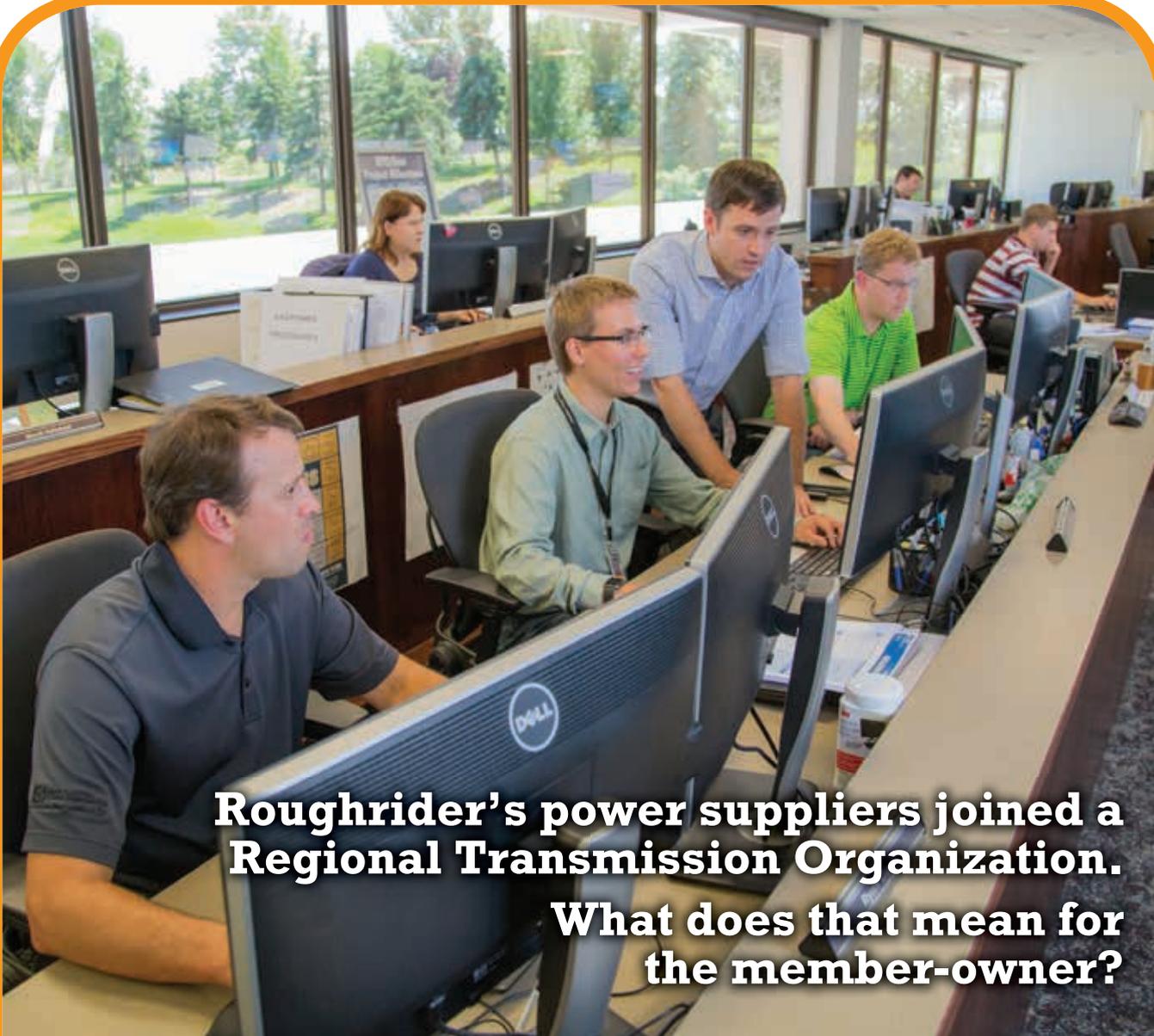


# ROUGH RIDER NEWS

ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

FEBRUARY 2016



**Roughrider's power suppliers joined a Regional Transmission Organization.**

**What does that mean for the member-owner?**

PHOTO BY BASIN ELECTRIC POWER COOPERATIVE

## What's Inside:

- **Managers' Message**
- **Scholarship opportunities**
- **Serve your cooperative as a board director**



BAUMGARTNER



FRANKLUND

## Managers' Message

BY CHRIS BAUMGARTNER AND DON FRANKLUND,  
CO-GENERAL MANAGERS

### **Roughrider's power suppliers joined a Regional Transmission Organization. What does that mean for the member-owner?**

After many years of discussion and analysis, Roughrider Electric Cooperative's power suppliers, Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. and the Western Area Power Administration (Western), have joined and successfully integrated into the Southwest Power Pool (SPP), a Regional Transmission Organization (RTO) based out of Little Rock, Ark.

The SPP is charged with ensuring a reliable supply of electric generation, transmission infrastructure and competitive wholesale electricity prices to their members, throughout the Upper Great Plains, on behalf of utilities and transmission companies in 14 states, which now include Basin Electric and Western. The SPP is one of several other RTOs that blanket the country and operate under the oversight of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, of which Tony Clark, a North Dakota native and former Public Service Commissioner, is a member.

#### **So how does this affect our business?**

When participating in an RTO, Basin Electric and Western can more economically purchase power from other regional utilities in time of need and sell power in time of excess. It also allows them to adopt standardized rules and tariffs that apply to wheeling power across the high-voltage transmission system.

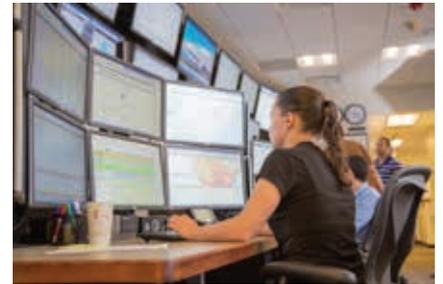
Even though we are considered a distribution cooperative, interestingly enough, Roughrider also provides transmission service to other utilities such as Montana-Dakota Utilities (MDU). While Basin Electric will operate its transmission facilities under SPP guidelines, we are also considering operating our transmission facilities in the same manner. Your board of directors and management are currently weighing the possibility of this commitment.

In addition, Roughrider receives some of its power over transmission lines we do not own. This sharing of lines is known as wheeling and a wheeling fee is charged. We understand this fee may increase and are currently preparing for this possible escalation. Of course, that affects the bottom line at your cooperative.

Although a complicated and philosophical change, the Roughrider board of directors and management believe that Basin Electric and Western have made the right move to join the SPP. We will keep you informed as we learn more about the evolving electric generation and transmission environment.

Please understand, no matter what issues your cooperative will face in 2016, the member-owner is front-and-center in our decision-making. You can expect that Roughrider Electric

Cooperative will continue to provide safe, reliable and affordable electric service. We have — and will continue — to work hard to accomplish that goal. ■



Basin Electric marketing room

### **FAST FACTS**

A Regional Transmission Organization (RTO) operates bulk electric power systems across much of North America. RTOs are independent, non-profit and membership-based, that ensure reliability and optimize supply and demand bids for wholesale electric power. Southwest Power Pool is one of seven such organizations. RTOs first developed in the 1990s to accommodate the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) policy.

FERC is the U.S. federal agency with jurisdiction over interstate electricity sales, wholesale electric rates, hydroelectric licensing, natural gas pricing and oil pipeline rates. FERC also reviews and authorizes liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminals, interstate natural gas pipelines and non-federal hydropower projects.

<http://www.spp.org/>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/>

Report from

# THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## DEC. 18, 2015

**When, where and who:** The Board of Directors met in Hazen on Dec. 18.

**Minutes of the previous meeting:** The Board reviewed and approved the minutes of the Nov. 20, 2015 meeting.

**General Managers' report:** Chris Baumgartner and Don Franklund presented the managers' report.

**Nominating Committee names:** The Board provided the following names of individuals who consented to serve on the Nominating Committee:

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| 1. East District-    | Wayne Windhorst<br>John Smith<br>Clay Price        |
| 2. Central District- | David Sadowsky<br>Bruce Voegelé<br>Robert Fitterer |
| 3. West District-    | Ivo Schoch<br>Gordon Ficek<br>Allan Kadrmas        |

**Safety report:** The Board reviewed the report of the Safety Operating Committee dated Nov. 19, 2015. The Board also reviewed the agenda for the next safety meeting.

**Operations and construction report:** Mr. Bentz provided the Board with an update on the loss incurred due to the recent wind and ice storm. Roughrider lost about seven poles. Roughrider also sent a crew down to Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative, Inc. to assist in its repairs to lines due to the wind and ice storm.

**Upcoming meetings:** The next Board meeting was set for 10 a.m. CT on Jan. 29, 2016, at Price Ranch in Price, North Dakota.

**Other business:** There being no other business, upon motion made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned. ■

## Roughrider Electric Cooperative offers members CONSERVATION AND ENERGY EFFICIENCIES INCENTIVES

**R**oughrider Electric Cooperative is continuing the conservation and energy-efficiency program through 2016. The incentives help you, the member, become more energy efficient.

The program for 2016 will include ground-source heat pumps and air-source heat pumps.

Members must buy and install qualifying systems between Jan. 1, 2016 and Dec. 31, 2016. The program for the heat pumps is for new installation or for replacement of a conventional heating system.

Roughrider Electric Cooperative personnel will check the

installation, and get the appropriate documentation and receipts. Once completed and approved, Roughrider Electric Cooperative will send a check directly to the member to help cover the purchase cost.

A maximum dollar amount has been set aside for the incentive program. The program will close when we meet this amount. Roughrider Electric reserves the right to cancel the program without further notice. One rebate allowed per member.

For more information, please contact Brad Quenette, director of member services, at 800-748-5533 or email [bquenette@roughriderelectric.com](mailto:bquenette@roughriderelectric.com).

**Ground-Source Heat Pumps:**  
Required minimum efficiency

**\$150 per ton with a maximum rebate of \$600**  
CLOSED LOOP: EER >= 14.1 COP >= 3.3  
OPEN LOOP: EER >= 16.2 COP >= 3.6

**Air-Source Heat Pumps:**  
Required minimum efficiency

**\$100 per ton with a maximum rebate of \$400**  
HSPF >= 8.2 EER >= 12 SEER >= 14.5



# Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars for the  
2016 Annual Meeting!

Roughrider Electric Cooperative  
will hold its annual meeting  
**Wednesday, June 1, at Hazen High School in Hazen.**

Look for more information in upcoming issues  
of *North Dakota Living*.



## Vote by mail at the annual meeting

In 2009 Roughrider Electric Cooperative's board of directors decided to offer the members the option of voting by mail. Ballots and instructions will be mailed out prior to the annual meeting. Under the bylaws, no nominations are accepted from the floor at the annual meeting. A qualified member of Roughrider Electric Cooperative may become a candidate for election by being nominated by the Nominating Committee or by a petition submitted not less than 60 days before the meeting.

**Mail-in ballots will only be sent to members upon request. To request a ballot, please contact Steve Hildebrand at 701-748-2293 or 800-748-5533 prior to May 9. You may also contact Steve at [shildebrand@roughriderelectric.com](mailto:shildebrand@roughriderelectric.com).**

### STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Roughrider Electric Cooperative, Inc. is a recipient of federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The USDA prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave. S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call toll free 866-632-9992 (voice) or 800-877-8339 (TDD) or 866-377-8642 (relay voice users). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

**ROUGH RIDER ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.**

TO: All Members  
FROM: Donald A. Franklund and Christopher L. Baumgartner,  
Alliance Co-General Managers  
SUBJECT: Nomination Process

To comply with Rural Utilities Service (RUS) requirements, we must provide each member with a summary of the bylaws on the nomination process prior to the nomination of candidates for board positions. The following is the bylaw section on nominations:

**SECTION 4. Nominations.**

(a) A Nominating Committee shall be selected by the Board of Directors in time for its first meeting to be held before the annual meeting of members in 2009 and for each annual meeting of members thereafter. The Nominating Committee shall consist of an equal number of members from each of the Cooperative's Districts and a minimum of two members from each district shall be selected. No member of the Board of Directors may serve on the Nominating Committee. The Board of Directors shall establish rules for the conduct of and arrange for the meeting of the Nominating Committee. The Secretary shall notify the members of the Nominating Committee in the manner provided by Article II, Section 4 delivered at least fifteen days before the date set for the Committee meeting. From and after 2009, the Nominating Committee shall meet at least sixty days before the annual meeting of members to nominate at least one qualified candidate for each directorship for which there is a vacancy to be filled by a vote of the members. Upon conclusion of the meeting, the Nominating Committee shall cause a list of nominees for Directors to be posted at the principal office of the Cooperative.

(b) By petition, any fifteen or more members of the same district acting together may make other nominations for each directorship in that district for which there is a vacancy to be filled by a vote of the members, provided that the petition is filed with the Secretary not less than sixty days prior to the annual meeting of members. The Secretary shall cause to be posted such nominations at the same place where the list of nominations made by the committee is posted.

(c) The Secretary shall cause to be mailed, with the notice of the annual meeting of members, or separately but at least fifteen days before the date of the meeting, a statement of the number of Directors to be elected and the names and addresses of the candidates, specifying separately the nominations made by the Nominating Committee and also the nominations made by petition, if any.

(d) Unless voting by mail for directorships has been approved, the President, acting as Chairman of the meeting, shall invite additional nominations from the floor and nominations shall not be closed until a reasonable time has passed during which no additional nominations have been made. No member may nominate more than one candidate at any single annual meeting of members.

The Nominating Committee appointed by the board consists of **Gordon Ficek**, Dickinson; **Ivo Schoch**, New England; **Alan Kadrmas**, Dickinson; **Bruce Voegelé**, Beulah; **David V. Sadowsky**, Dickinson; **Robert Fitterer**, Golden Valley; **John Smith**, Beulah; **Wayne Windhorst**, Stanton; **Clay Price**, Washburn.

One committee meeting was held Jan. 28 in Dickinson, and another is scheduled for Feb. 25 in Hazen.

If you have any questions concerning nominations, feel free to contact anyone on the Nominating Committee or please call our office for information.

**RETURN  
APPLICATIONS  
BY  
FEB. 10, 2016**

## Cooperative offers scholarship opportunities

**R**oughrider Electric Cooperative will again offer \$5,000 in college scholarships to area students. The co-op will award eight, \$500 scholarships. Each school in our service area chooses one recipient. School representatives from Belfield, Beulah, Center, Dickinson High, Dickinson Trinity, Hazen, Richardton-Taylor and South Heart choose a graduating senior to receive the funds. Interested in applying? Students should contact their school counselor for deadline information. The schools will then forward each recipient's name to Roughrider Electric Cooperative.

The co-op will also award one, \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior from a school outside of our service area. The recipient must have parents who are members of our cooperative.

Roughrider Electric is also offering one, \$1,000

scholarship from Basin Electric Power Cooperative. We award the scholarship to a student already enrolled or planning to enroll in a full-time graduate or undergraduate program. The student must attend an accredited, two-year or four-year college, university or vocational/technical school. All post-secondary students who have parents that are members of Roughrider Electric Cooperative are eligible to apply.

Students can find the application on our website, [roughriderelectric.com](http://roughriderelectric.com). Forms are also available at our local offices in Hazen and Dickinson.

Fill out our online application or mail paper applications to Roughrider Electric Cooperative, Attn: Scholarship Committee, P.O. Box 1038, Dickinson, ND 58601.

Return completed applications to Roughrider Electric Cooperative before Feb. 10, 2016. ■

# SAFETY FROM THE INSIDE: TAMPER RESISTANT RECEPTACLES (TRRS)

Each year approximately **24,000 children** were treated from shock and burns after sticking items into the slots of electrical receptacles. To prevent these types of injuries the **National Electrical Code (NEC®)** now requires **Tamper Resistant Receptacles (TRRs)** in new and renovated homes.

## OUTLET COVERS are **OUT**



Studies have shown that **children over the age of 2** can easily remove outlet covers.



TRRs require **no additional parts**, there's no need to remember to put them in.



Tamper-resistant outlet covers are **no longer approved** by independent testing laboratories.



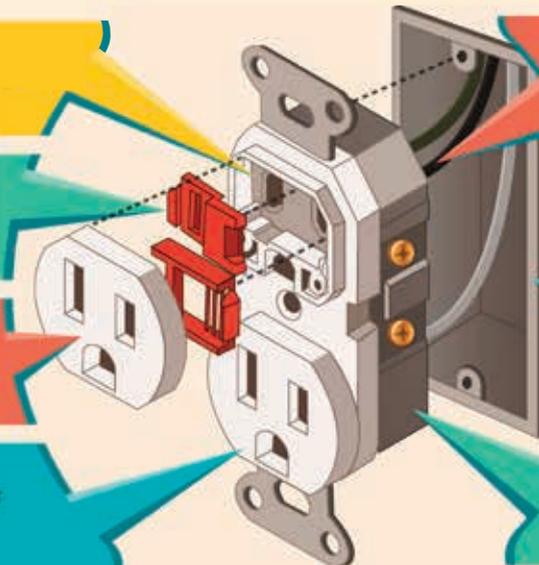
Outlet covers carry a higher risk of **overheating** and can be a **fire hazard**.

**Certified** by Independent Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratories.

Built-in shutters **prevent foreign objects** from being inserted into receptacle.

**Permanent solution** to outlet covers.

Installing TRRs in homes costs only about **20 cents** more than a traditional receptacle.



Complies with the most recent version of the **National Electrical Safety Code (NEC®)**.

Available as **TRR + USB, TRR + GFCI, AFCI + TRR.**

Regular receptacles can easily be replaced by TRR by a **qualified electrician** with no additional modifications.

## DOES PLUGGING INTO A TRR FEEL DIFFERENT?

The shutters in a **TRR will operate like a traditional outlet** to open and accept a plug when equal pressure is applied on both sides. Make sure the **plug's blades are straight and are equal lengths**, so they hit the shutter simultaneously. **TRRs may require more force** to insert a plug during the first use.

These **common blade issues** can easily be corrected by straightening out the plug's blades:



# BE PREPARED FOR WINTER'S WRATH

*Roughrider Electric Cooperative strives to provide you with reliable, uninterrupted service every day of the year, but sometimes Mother Nature creates unavoidable power outages. Roughrider Electric Cooperative wants you to remain safe during severe winter weather, so consider preparing now for the possibility of power outages this winter.*

## STAY AWAY FROM DOWNED POWER LINES

Mother Nature isn't always kind to power lines. Winter winds, snow and ice often prove to be too much for utility poles and power lines. If you see a downed power line or utility pole, contact Roughrider Electric Cooperative immediately.

Do not go near the line or the pole. Just because it's on the ground doesn't mean it's safe to approach.

## TO REPORT AN OUTAGE

Because power outages can't be totally eliminated, Roughrider Electric Cooperative offers these steps to follow if an outage occurs:

- Confirm the outage. Check your own fuses and circuit breakers first.
- Check with a neighbor to confirm if he or she is also experiencing an outage before you call the cooperative. This will help your cooperative determine the extent of the outage.
- Call the cooperative. If the outage is widespread, the phone lines may be busy, but keep trying. Your cooperative will send a line crew to find the problem and restore power as quickly as possible.

If you have additional questions about outages, please call Roughrider Electric Cooperative.

## DURING AN OUTAGE

To prevent an overload on the system while power is being restored, take these steps:

- Turn off every inside light except one.
- Turn down your thermostat.
- If the outage lasts more than 60 minutes, turn off your electric water heater.
- Make sure your kitchen range is off, both the surface and the oven.
- Turn off all unnecessary appliances and unplug sensitive electronic equipment.
- When power comes back on, slowly switch your appliances and lights back on and gradually return your thermostat to its normal setting.



[www.roughriderelectric.com](http://www.roughriderelectric.com)

### HAZEN OFFICE

701-748-2293 or 800-748-5533  
800 Highway Dr., Hazen, ND 58545  
7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. CST Monday-Friday

Payments may be deposited in the deposit box by Roughrider Electric's main office entrance or in the drop boxes located at Krause's Super Valu in Hazen or Bronson's Super Valu in Beulah.

### DICKINSON OFFICE

701-483-5111 or 800-627-8470  
P.O. Box 1038, 2156 4th Ave. E.  
Dickinson, ND 58602  
8 a.m. – 5 p.m. MST Monday-Friday

Payments may be deposited in the deposit box west of Roughrider Electric's main office entrance or in the drop boxes located at Dickinson City Hall, or the north and south locations of Family Fare supermarkets.

### OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Roger Kudrna, President; Dickinson .....483-8377  
Darell Herman, Vice President; Beulah .....873-4371  
Troy Sailer, Secretary; Golden Valley .....948-2427  
Bruce Darcy, Treasurer; Golden Valley .....983-4222  
William Retterath; Center .....794-8729  
Arnold Kainz; Dickinson .....483-8207  
Dan Price; Hensler .....794-3779  
Greg Steckler; Dunn Center .....548-8122  
Callen Schoch; New England .....579-4395

### MANAGEMENT

Don Franklund .....Co-General Manager/CEO  
Chris Baumgartner .....Co-General Manager/CEO



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